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# The Square Kilometre Array

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*Institute of Technology*

&

*SKA Program Development Office*

<http://www.skatelescope.org/>

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Government sponsorship acknowledged.



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# Square Kilometre Array

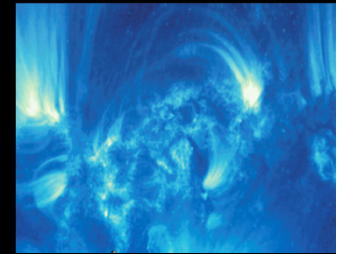
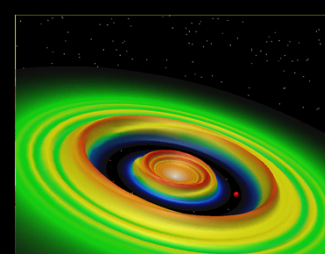
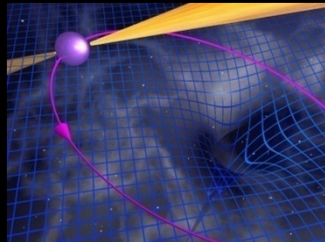
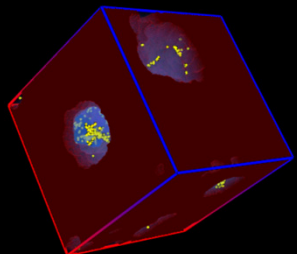
## The Global Radio

## Wavelength Observatory

- Originally: “Hydrogen telescope”

Detect H I 21-cm emission from  
Milky Way-like galaxy at  $z \sim 1$

- SKA science much broader  
⇒ Multi-wavelength, multi-messenger
- On-going technical development
- International involvement





# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Astrophysics



**20<sup>th</sup> Century:** We discovered our place in the Universe

**21<sup>st</sup> Century:** **We understand the Universe we inhabit**

## Do We Understand the Extremes of the Universe?

- Gravity
  - Can we observe strong gravity in action?
  - What is dark matter and dark energy? (dark energy and BAOs with H I galaxies)
- Magnetism
- Strong force
  - Nuclear equation of state

## How do Galaxies Form and Evolve? What is the Origin and Evolution of Stars and Planets?

- Galaxies and the Universe
  - How did the Universe emerge from its Dark Ages?
  - How did the structure of the cosmic web evolve?
  - Where are most of the metals throughout cosmic time?
  - How were galaxies assembled?
- Stars, Planets, and Life
  - How do planetary systems form and evolve?
  - What is the life-cycle of the interstellar medium and stars? (biomolecules)
  - Is there evidence for life on exoplanets? (SETI)

Origins

First Light

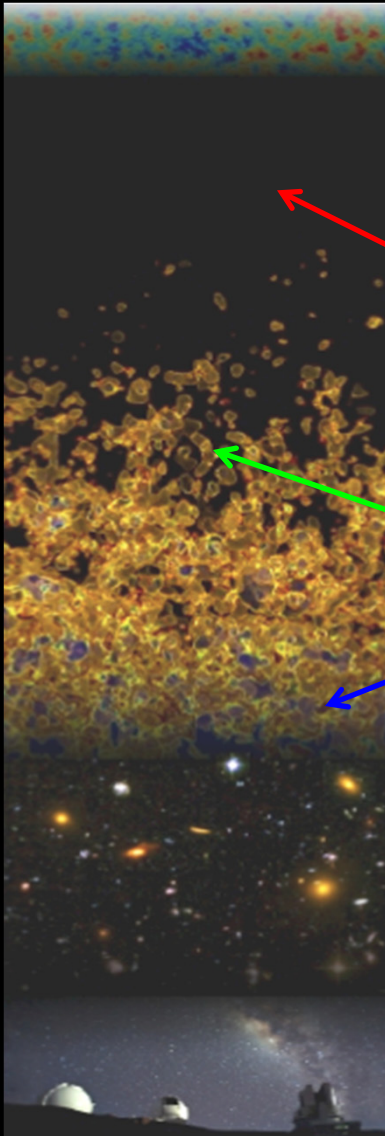
Galaxy Evolution

Astrobiology

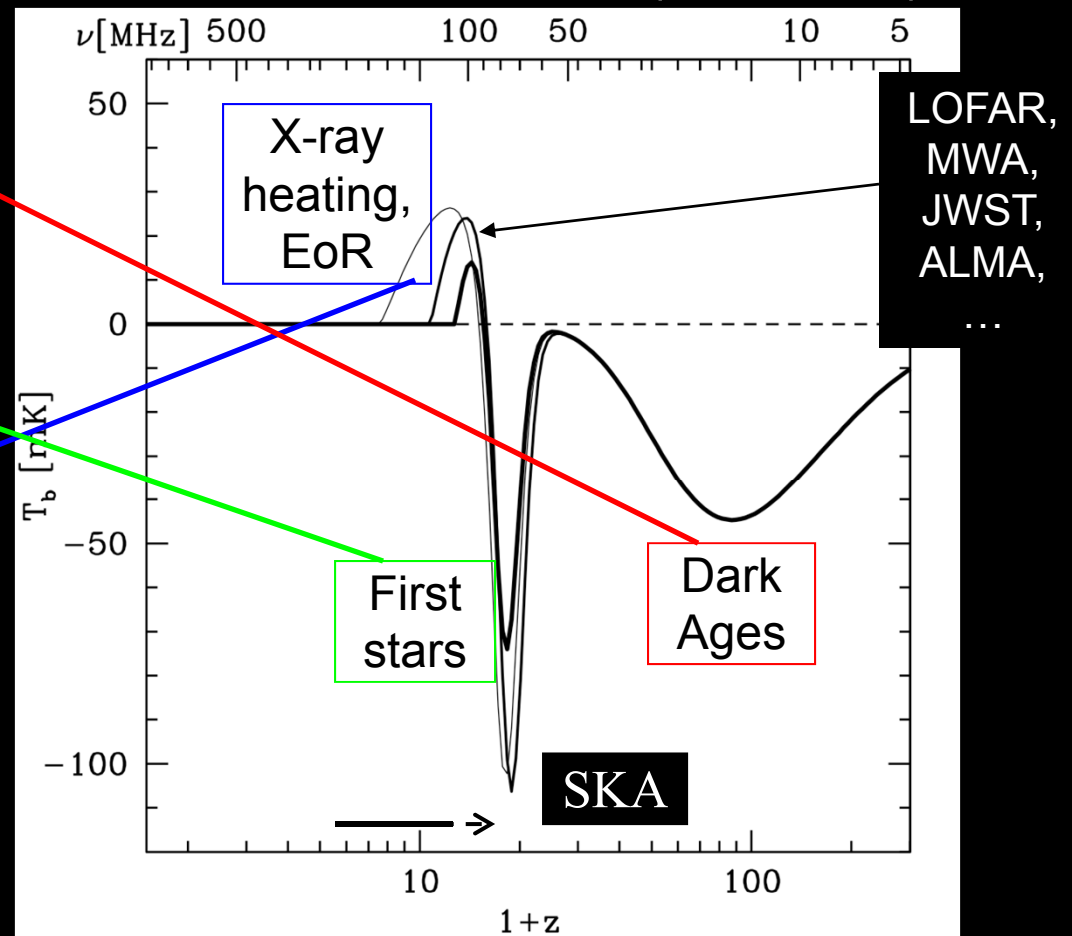
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# Evolution of the Universe



H I brightness temperature signal  
(w.r.t. CMB)



(Pritchard & Loeb 2008)



Origins

First Light

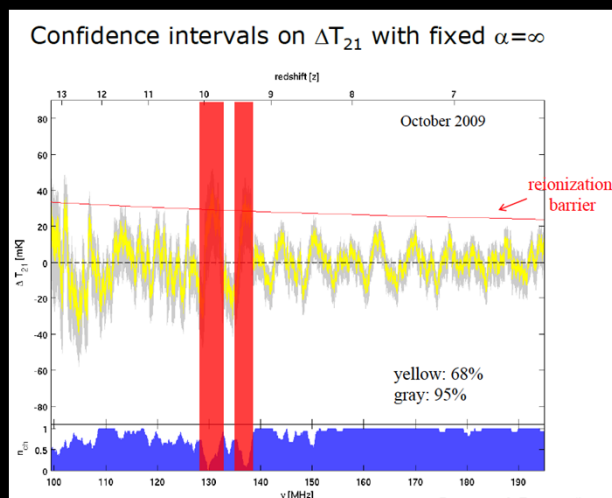
Galaxy Evolution

Astrobiology

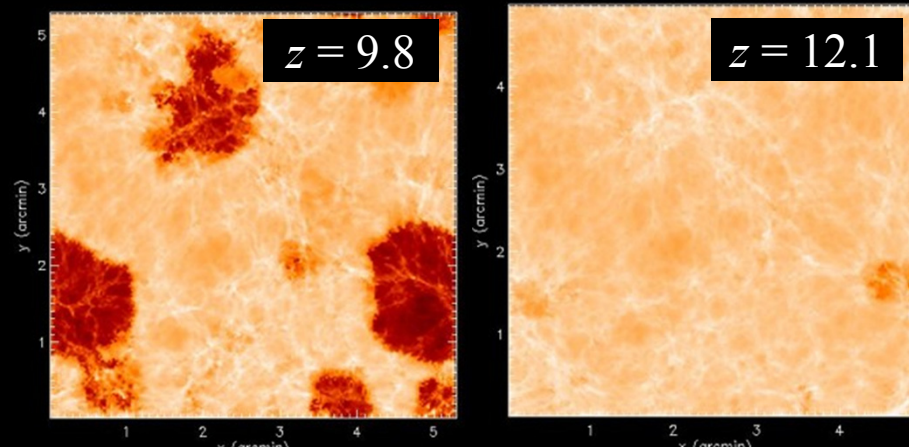
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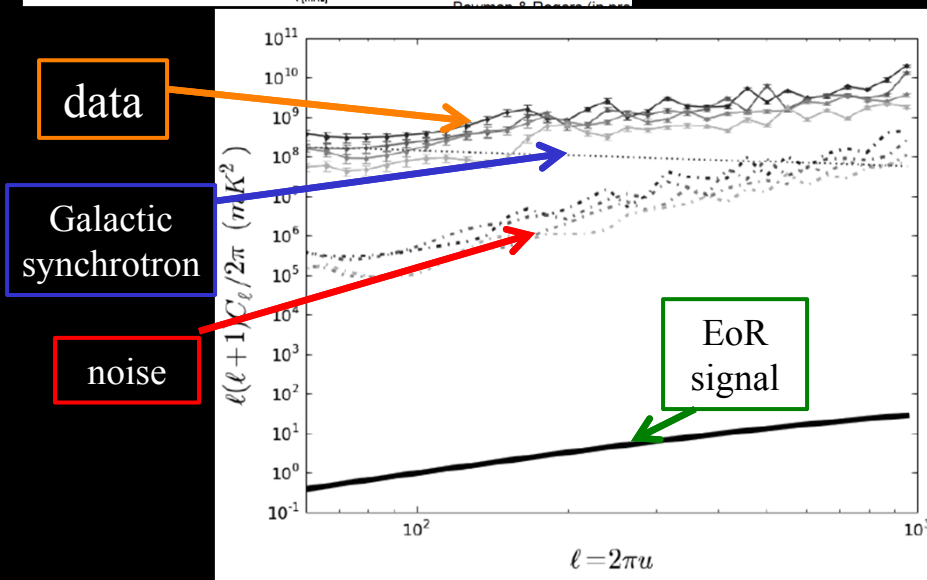
# Epoch of Reionization



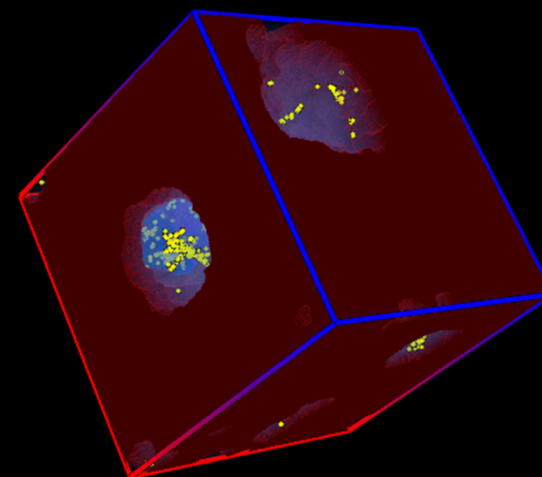
Bowman et al. 2008



SKA objective: Image the IGM transition in the H I (21-cm) line



Parsons et al. 2009; arXiv:0904.2334

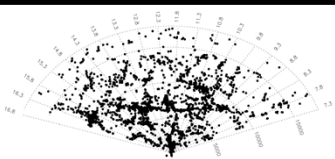
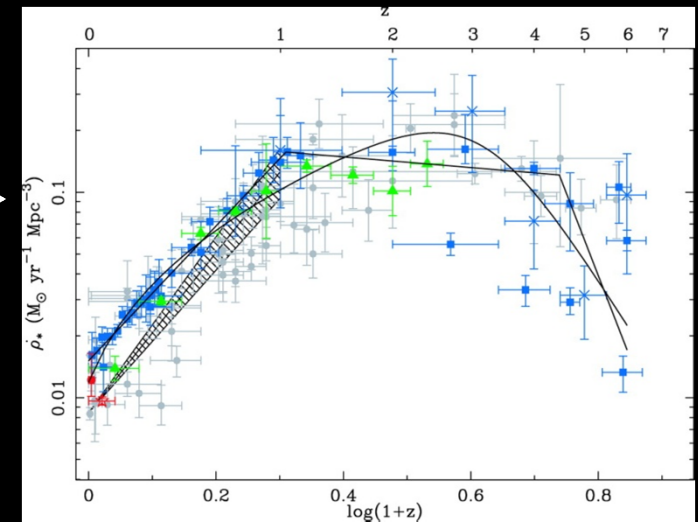


Video at  
<http://home.fnal.gov/~gnedin/>  
Furlanetto et al.; Gnedin

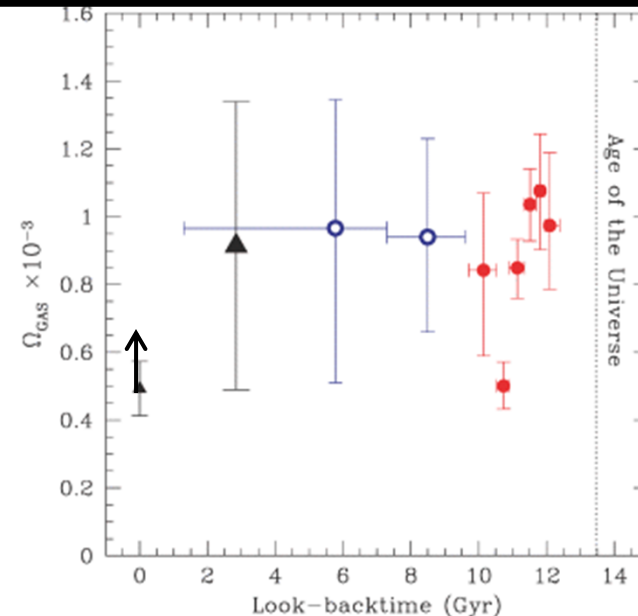
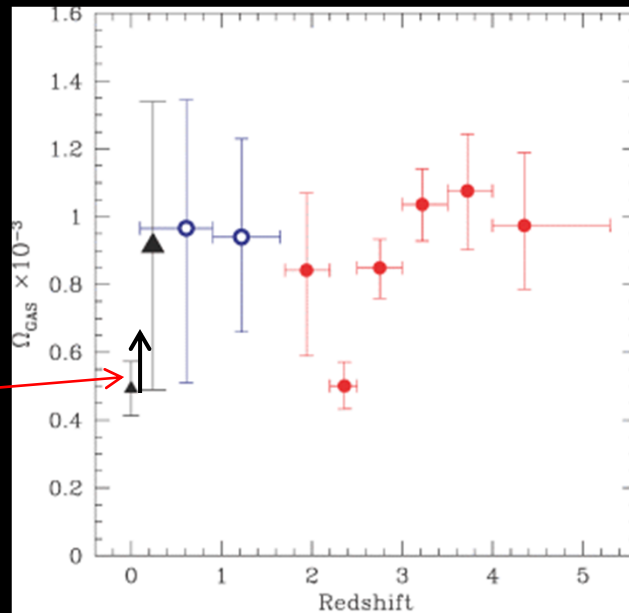
# Galaxy Assembly Stars *and* Gas

- Stellar “downsizing” since  $z \sim 1$
- ... but gas content unchanging!
- Gas content and dynamics becoming critical part of simulations.

stars →  
gas ↓



HIPASS  
(Parkes),  
ALFALFA  
(Arecibo)



Hopkins &  
Beacom



Origins

First Light

Galaxy Evolution

Astrobiology

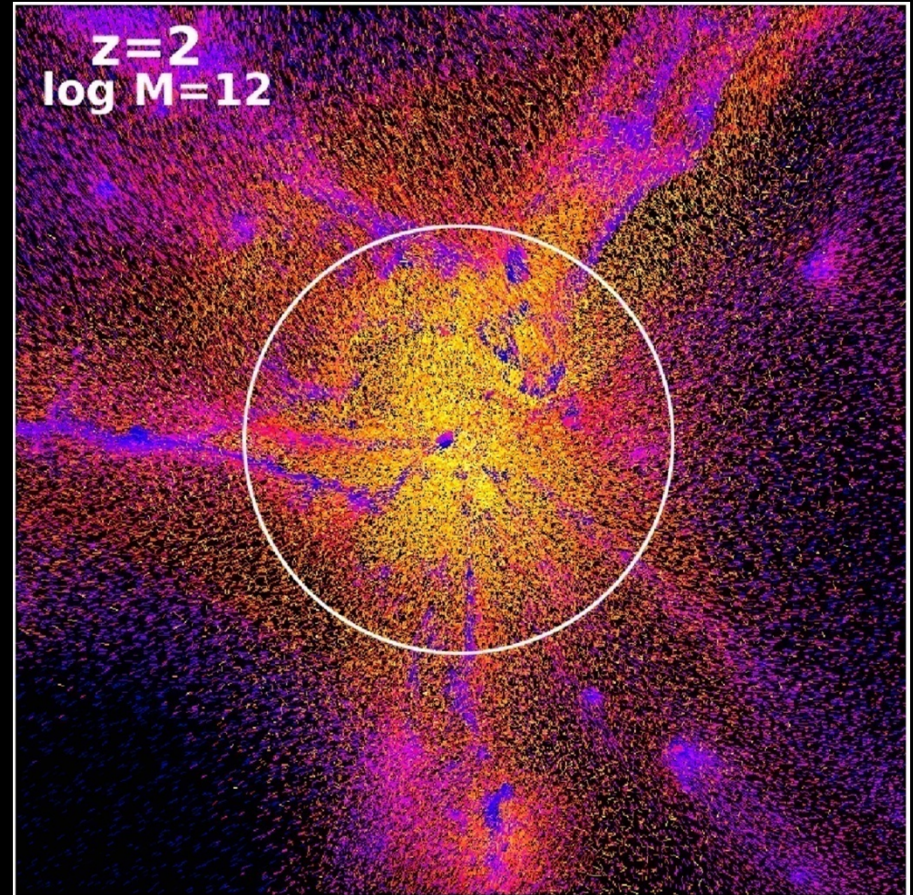
Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
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# Galaxy Assembly Stars *and* Gas

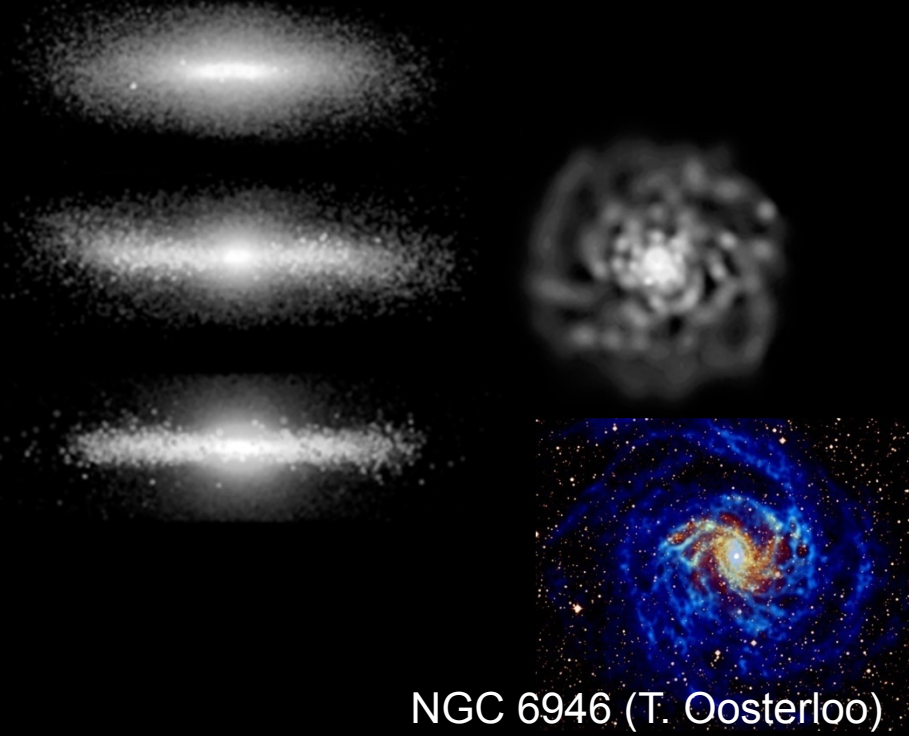


Gas content and dynamics  
becoming critical part of  
simulations.

Astronomy is an *observational*  
science.



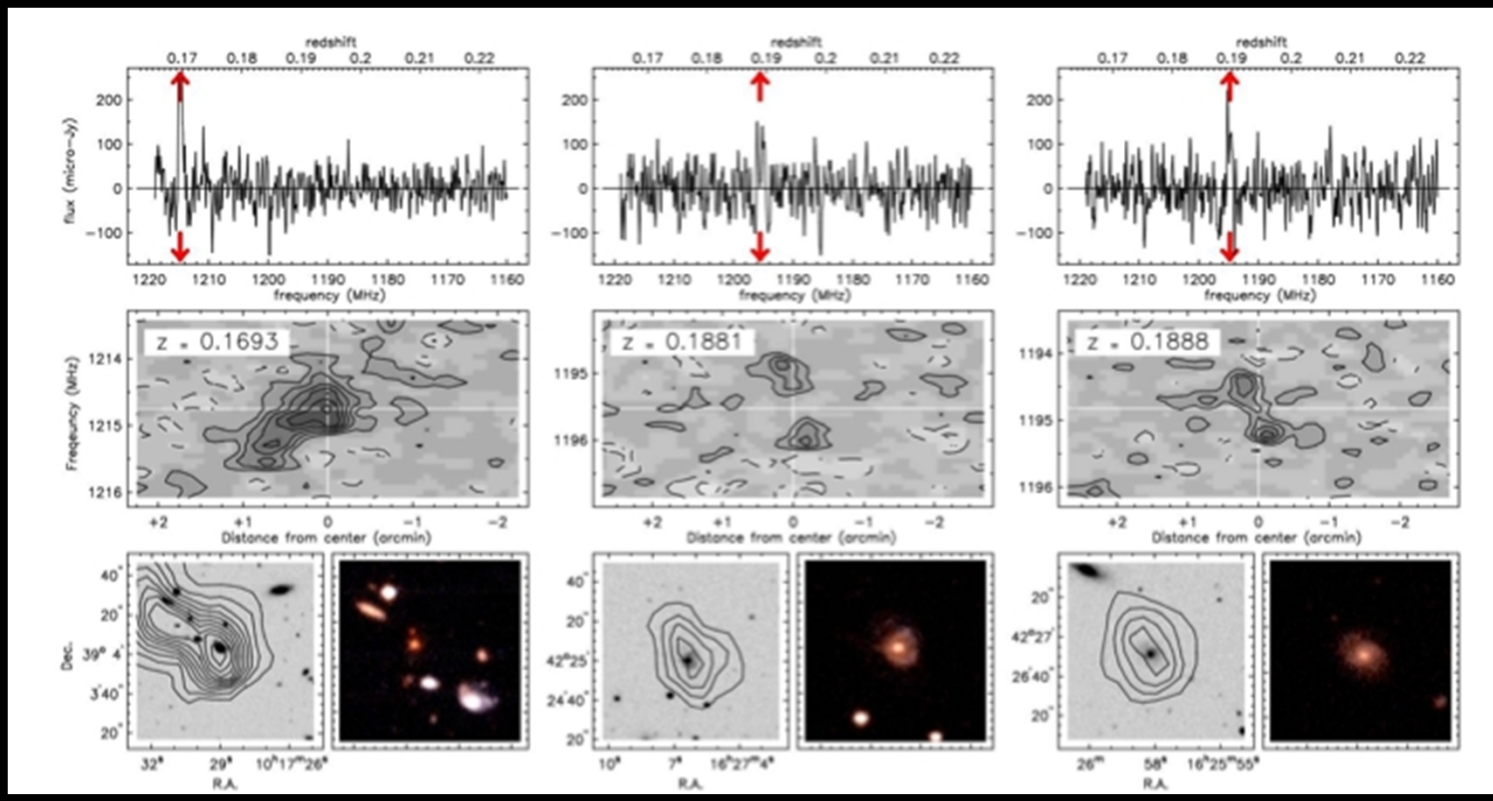
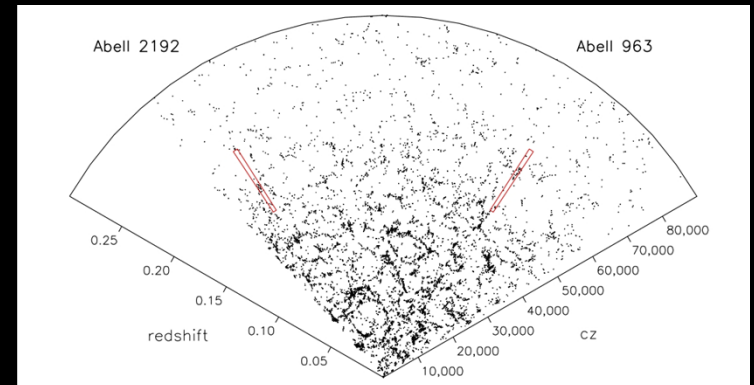
Keres et al.



NGC 6946 (T. Oosterloo)



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Origins

First Light

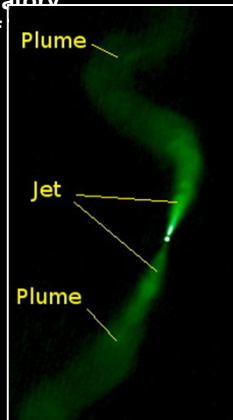
Galaxy Evolution

Astrobiology

Jet Propulsion Laboratory

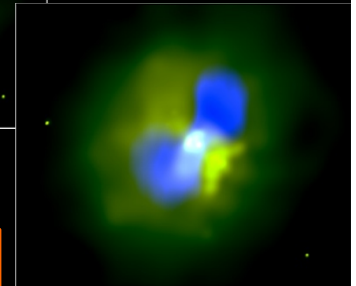
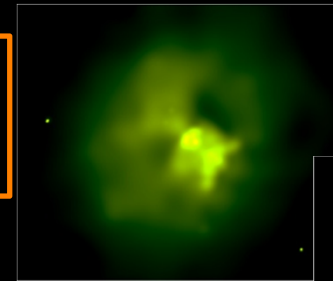
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# ... and Feedback



Radio Jet  
activates

Heats  
X-ray  
gas



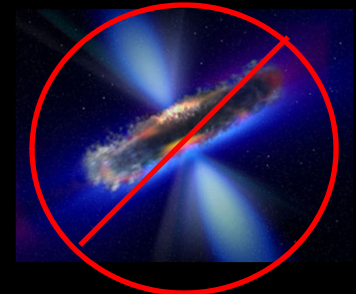
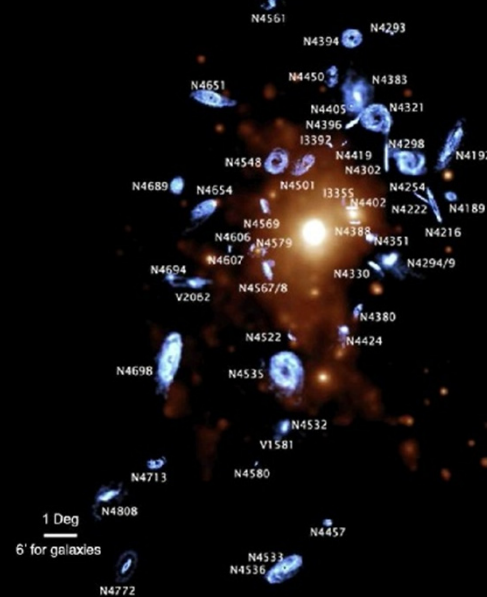
Offset  
X-ray  
cooling

BH  
accretion

X-ray  
cooling

BH stops  
accreting

RG is  
quiescent



Clarke,  
Feretti

Origins

First Light

Galaxy Evolution

Astrobiology

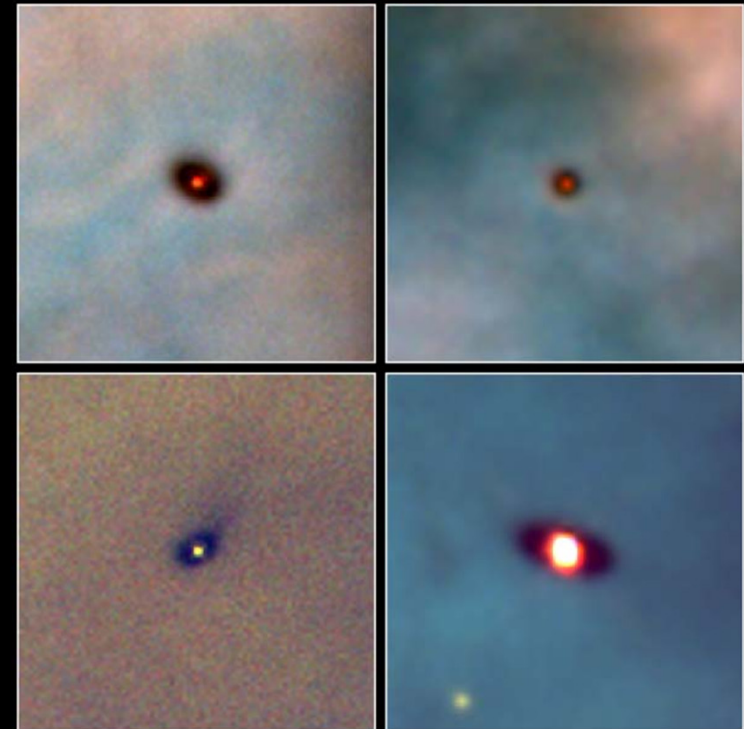
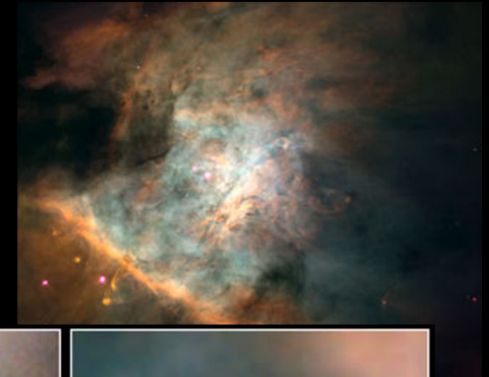
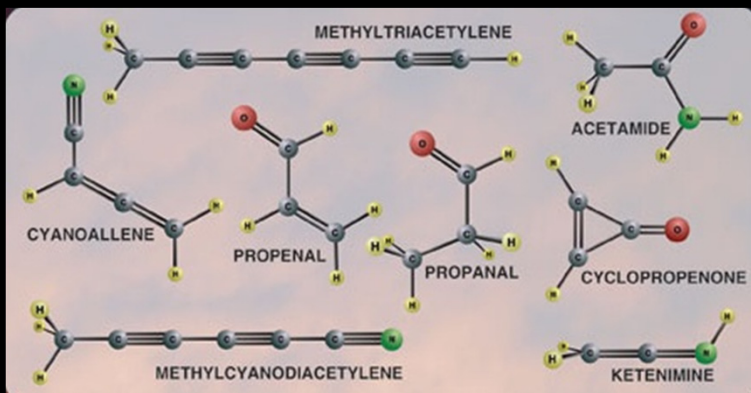
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# Astrobiology at Long Wavelengths



$\lambda > 1 \text{ cm}$

- Not affected by dust
- Complex molecules have transitions at longer wavelengths
- “Waterhole” (1.4–1.7 GHz)
- Magnetically-generated emissions from extrasolar planets



Protoplanetary Disks  
Orion Nebula

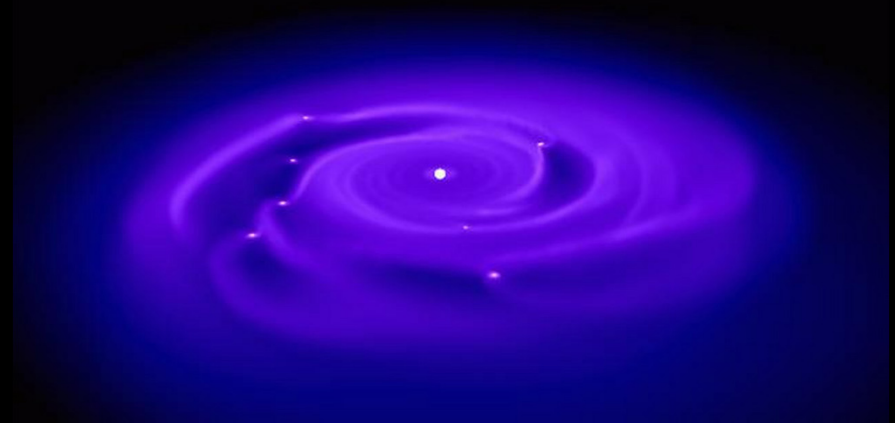
HST · WFPC2

PRC95-45b · ST ScI OPO · November 20, 1995  
M. J. McCaughrean (MPIA), C. R. O'Dell (Rice University), NASA

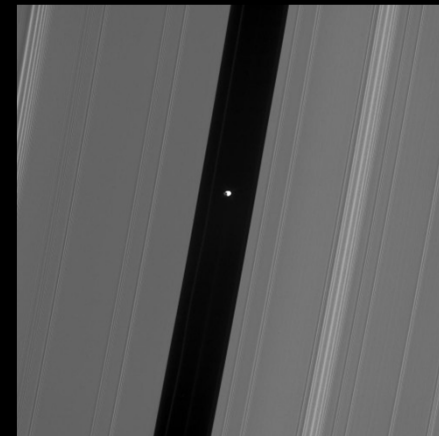
# Protoplanetary Disks

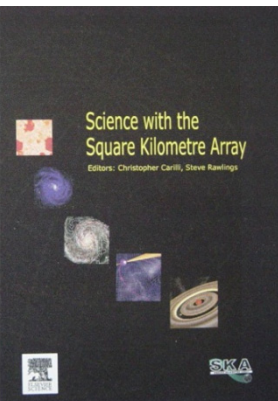


- 1 cm wavelength probes thermal radiation from “pebbles”
- Disks optically thin
- Image nearby protoplanetary disks
  - Cf. ALMA,  $< 700 \mu\text{m}$
  - mas resolution @ 1 cm is routine, all that’s lacking is *sensitivity*
- Orbital period @ 1 AU  $\sim 1$  yr
  - movies



Video at  
[http://imp.mcmaster.ca/images/Planet\\_movie1.mpg](http://imp.mcmaster.ca/images/Planet_movie1.mpg) (Mayer)





Space  
ory  
echnology

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Astrophysics



**20<sup>th</sup> Century:** We discovered our place in the Universe

**21<sup>st</sup> Century:** *We understand the Universe we inhabit*

## Do We Understand the Extremes of the Universe?

- Gravity
  - Can we observe strong gravity in action? (radio pulsar tests of GR)
  - What is dark matter and dark energy? (dark energy and BAOs with H I galaxies)
- Magnetism
- Strong force
  - Nuclear equation of state

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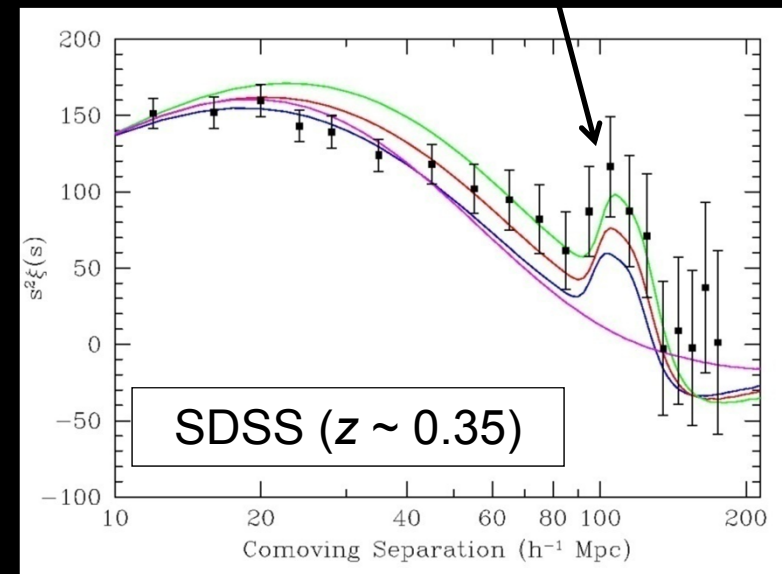
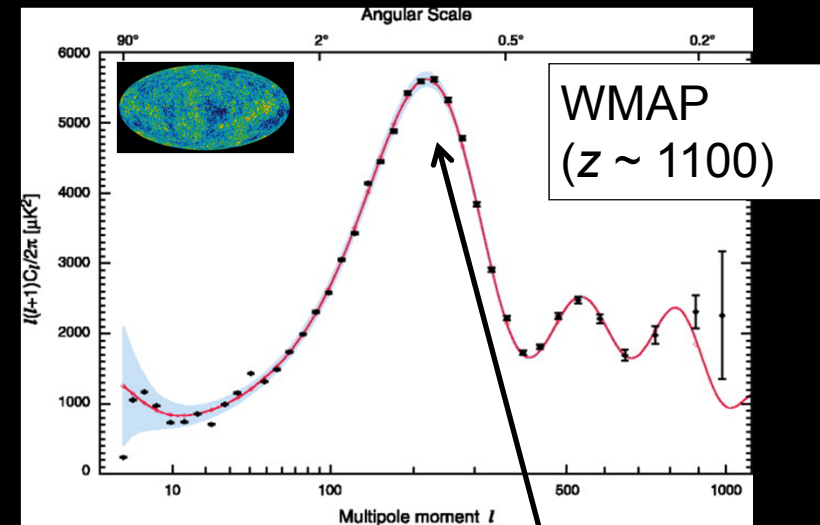


# Baryon Acoustic Oscillations

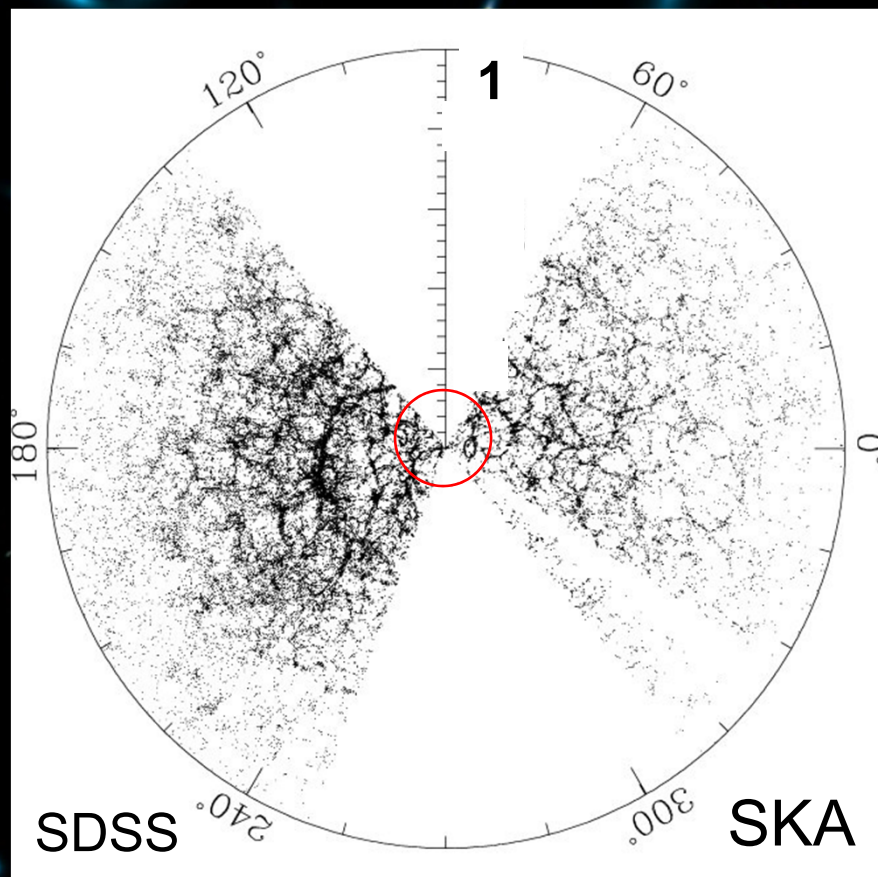


Remnant of plasma acoustic oscillations in early Universe

- $D_A(z)$  = angular size distance as a function of redshift
- $\sim 100 h^{-1}$  Mpc “standard ruler”
- Measures expansion rate of Universe



# SKA: Stage IV BAOs



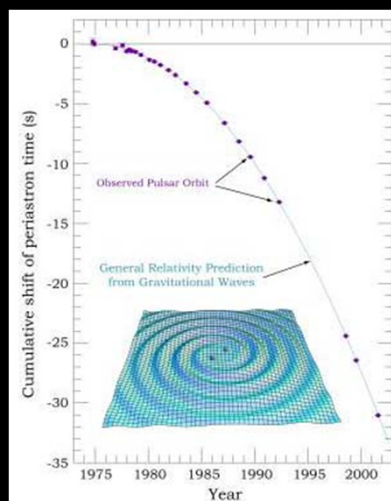
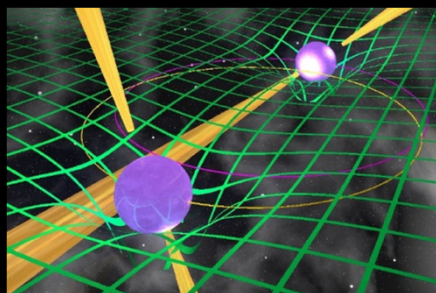
- Next-generation goal:
  - Survey large volume
  - Slice into redshift bins
  - Detect BAOs in each  $z$  bin
- SDSS surveyed  $\sim 1 \text{ Gpc}^3$ 
  - One redshift bin  $\sim 0.35$
- SKA targeting  $100 \text{ Gpc}^3$  ( $z > 1$ )
- H I galaxies
  - Intrinsically spectroscopic survey
  - Different biases than LSST, WFIRST/Euclid

# Did Einstein Have the Last Word on Gravity?

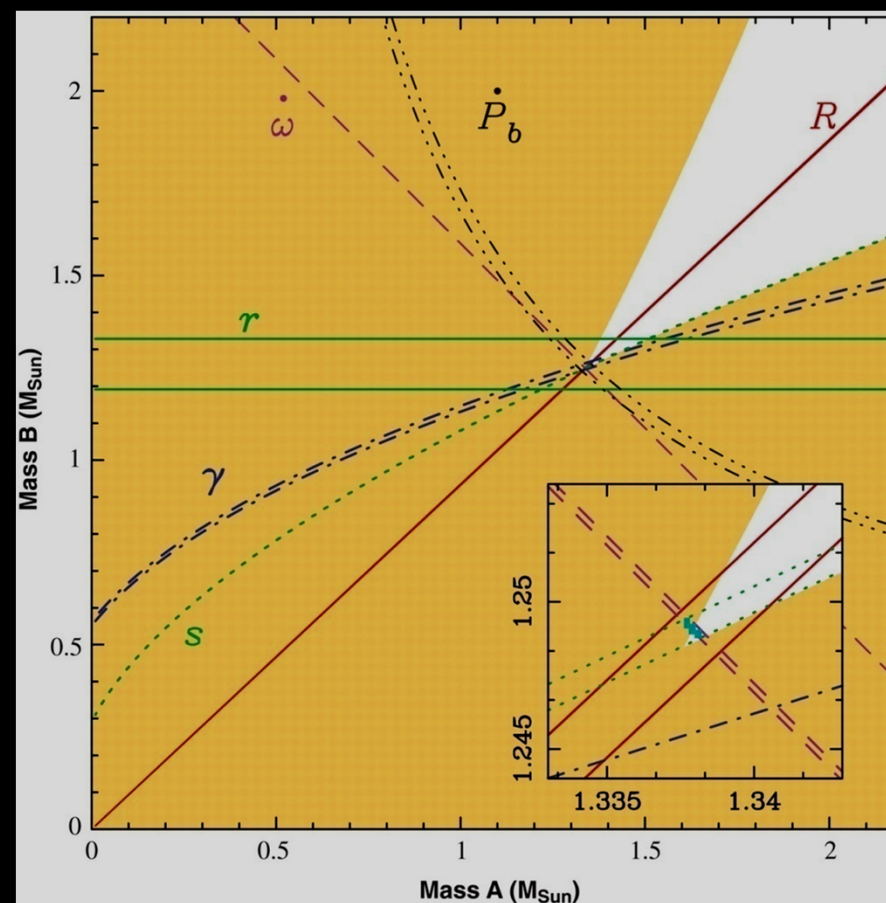


$$G_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}/c^4$$

PSR J0737-3039



- Relativistic binaries probe
  1. Equivalence principle
  2. Strong-field tests of gravity
- Only neutron star-neutron star binaries known
- ? Black hole-neutron star binaries?

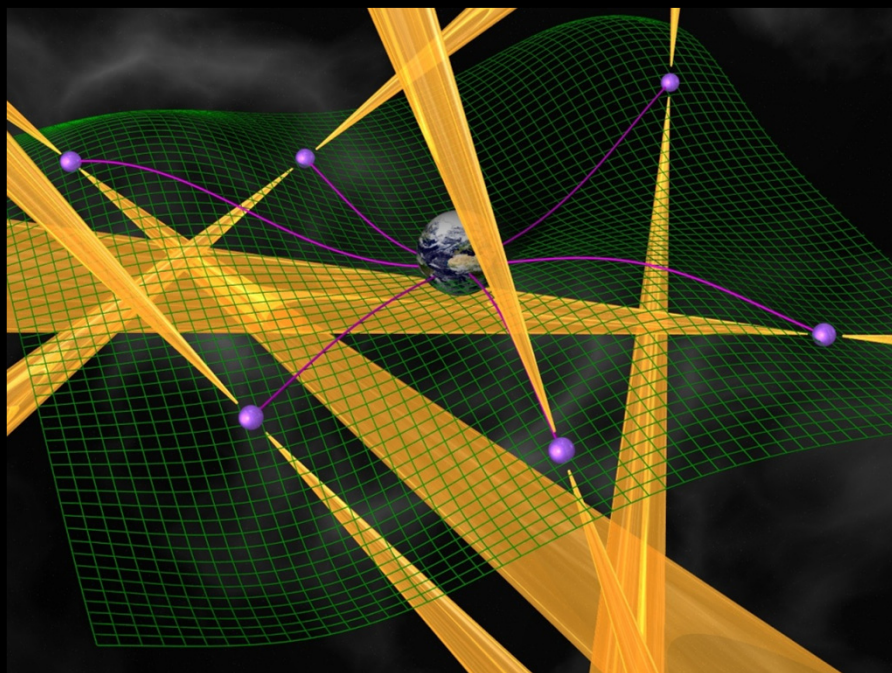


Kramer et al.



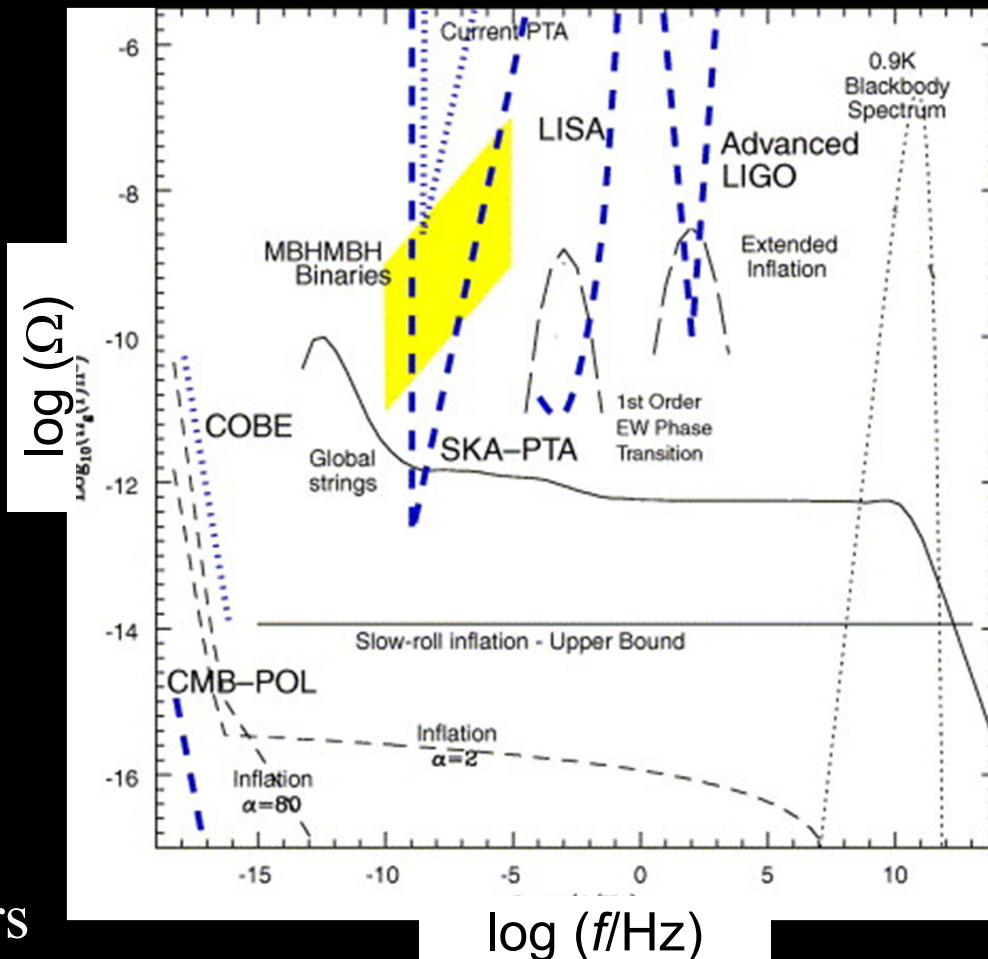
Fundamental  
Physics  
Dark Energy  
GR & BH  
Strong Force

# SKA: Gravitational Wave Detector



Test masses on lever arm

- **Pulsar Timing Array** = freely-falling **millisecond** pulsars
- LIGO = suspended mirrors
- LISA = freely-falling masses in spacecraft



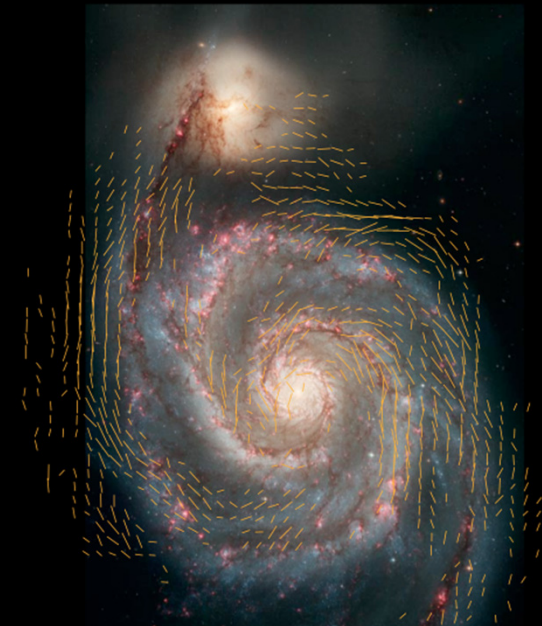
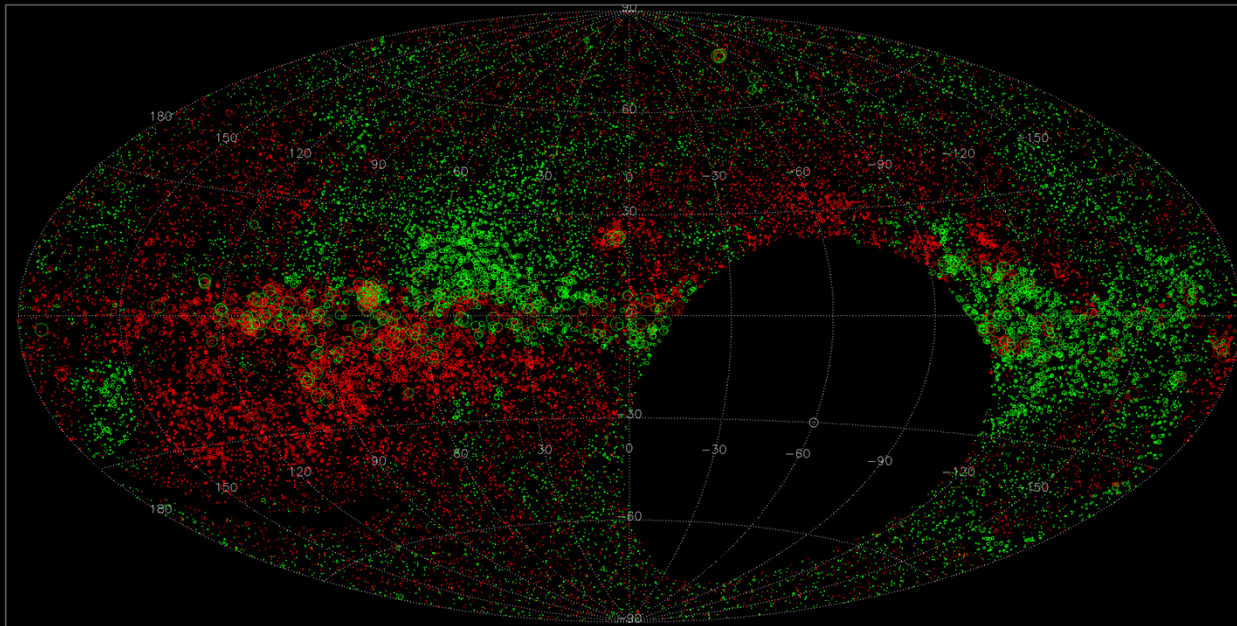


# Origin & Evolution of Magnetic Fields



- Magnetic fields are fundamental, but poorly constrained
  - Affects galaxy, cluster evolution?
  - Affects propagation of cosmic rays in ISM and IGM
- All-sky rotation measure surveys provide B fields along lines of sight

Rotation measures derived from the NVSS. RMs below 450 in magnitude plotted.



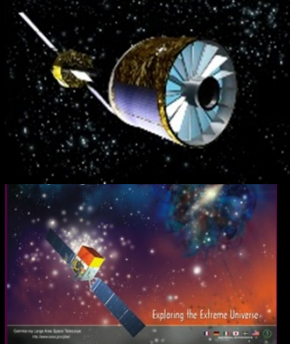
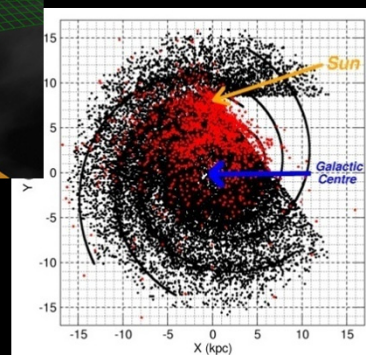
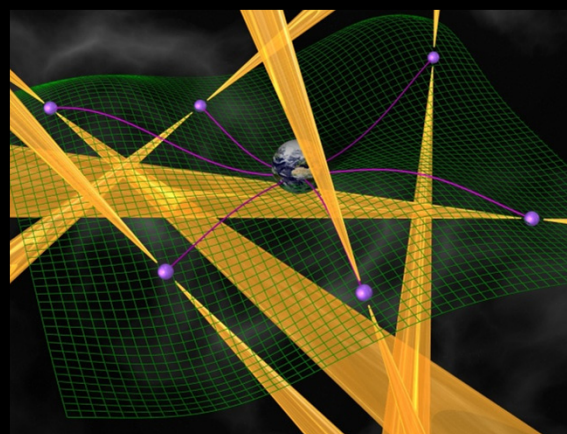
Fundamental  
Physics  
Dark Energy  
Gravity  
Gravity  
Strong Force

# Fundamental Forces

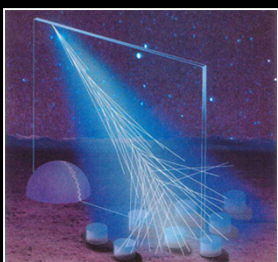


SKA: gravity, strong  
force, magnetism

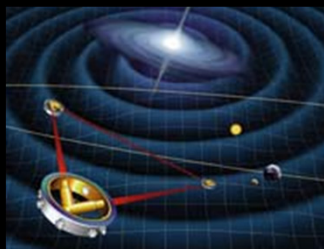
$$G_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}/c^4$$



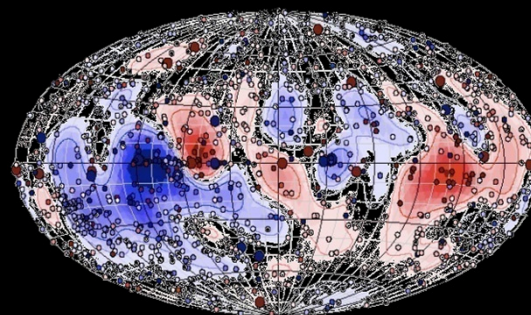
X- and  $\gamma$ -rays:  
gravity, strong force



Auger: cosmic-ray  
propagation



LIGO, LISA:  
gravity





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# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Astrophysics



## Fundamental Forces and Particles

- Gravity
- Magnetism
- Strong force

## Origins

- Galaxies and the Universe
- Stars, Planets, and Life

“The Universe is patiently  
waiting for our wits to grow  
sharper.”

Photon  
frequency/wavelength/energy

Time

Polarization

Sensitivity

Field of View

Angular Resolution



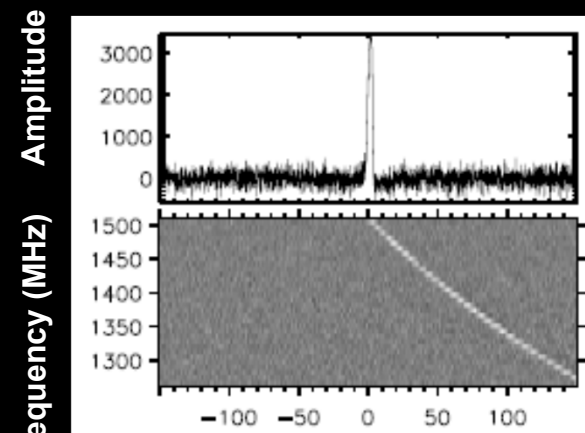
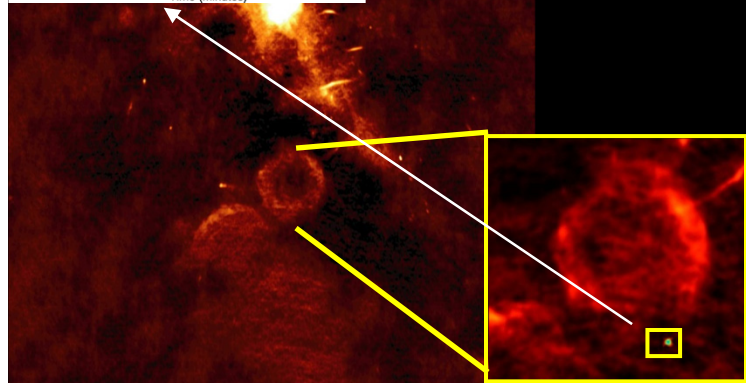
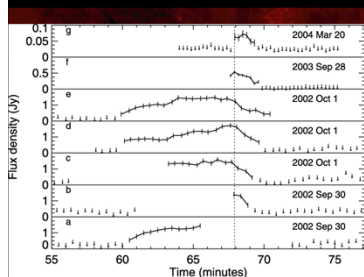


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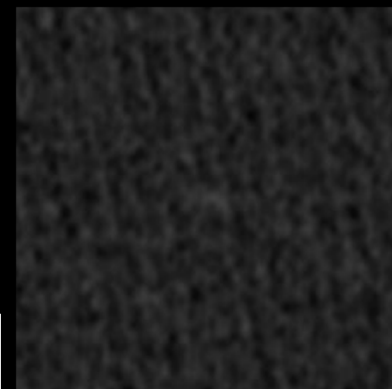
- Neutron stars

- Magnetars
- Giant pulses
- Short GRBs?

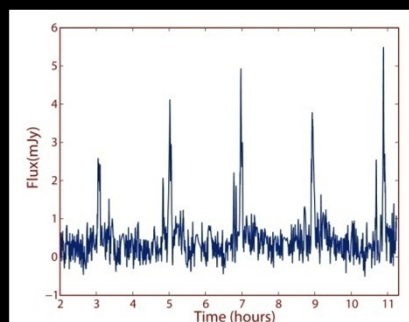
- GRBs ( $\gamma$ -ray loud;  $\gamma$ -ray quiet?)
  - Afterglows
  - Prompt emission?
- Sub-stellar objects
  - Brown dwarfs
  - Extrasolar planets?
- Microquasars
- Scintillation
- UHECRs
- ETI
- Exploding black holes
- ???



Rotating Radio  
Transients (RRATS)



Pulsating Brown  
Dwarfs







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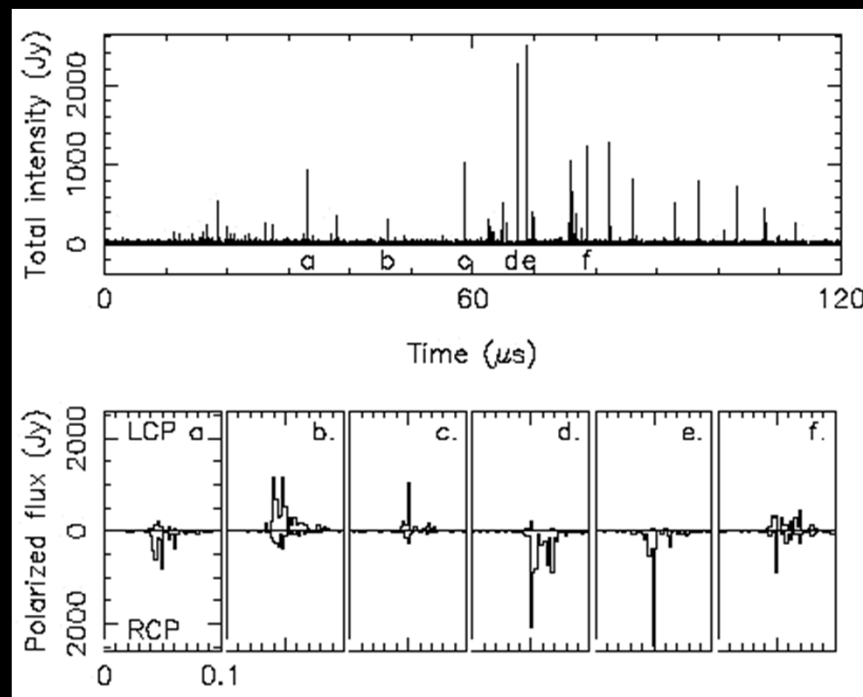
# Dynamic Radio Sky



All-sky surveys  
(3C, NVSS, ...)

+

(?)



Nano-second pulses from the  
Crab pulsar, from Arecibo



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# Dynamic Radio Sky and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Astrophysics



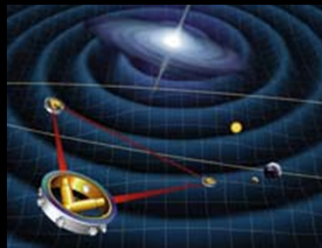
SKA



Optical  
survey  
telescopes



X- and  $\gamma$ -  
rays



LIGO,  
LISA

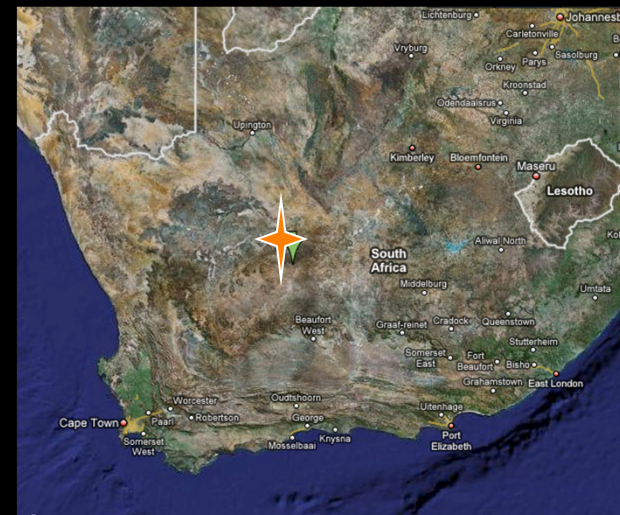
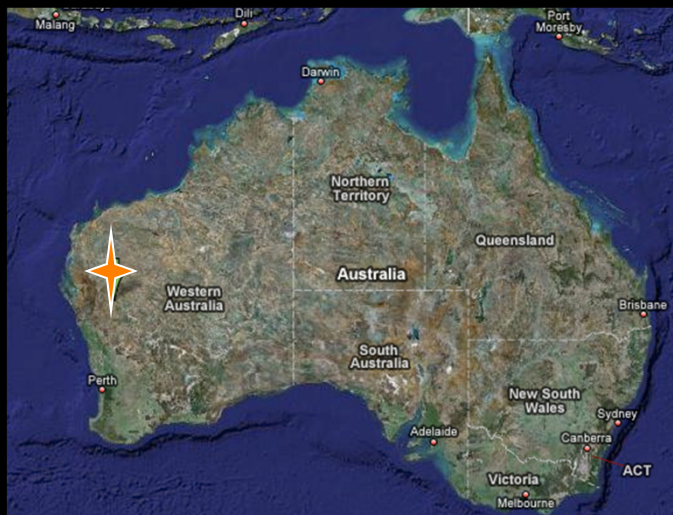
Transient sources are necessarily compact

- Locations of explosive or dynamic events
- Probe fundamental physics and astrophysics
- Radio signals modified by, and are powerful probes of, intervening media
  - Dispersion
  - Scattering
  - Faraday rotation
- Media include
  - Interplanetary medium (IPM)
  - Interstellar medium (ISM)
  - Intergalactic medium (IGM)

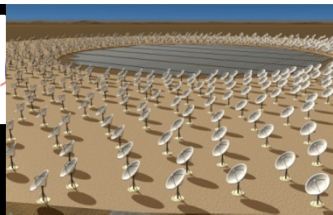


# An International Telescope

- Reference design
- “Preliminary Specifications for the SKA” (Schillizi et al. 2007)
- Technology development
  - U.S. TDP (\$12M)
  - EC PrepSKA (EUR 5.5M + matching)
- System Requirements Review  
2008 January 29–30
- International Engineering Advisory Committee  
2009 April 29 – 30
- Siting
- SKA Forum

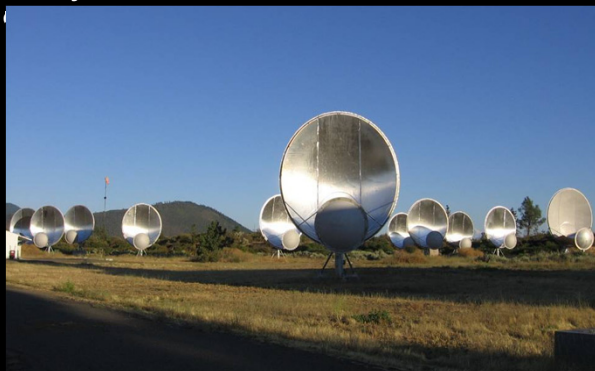






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# SKA Technology



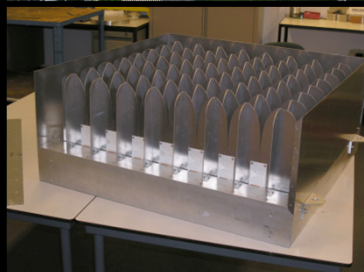
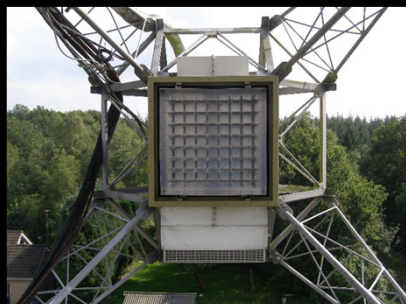
Novel antenna construction



Fiber optic transmission



Ultra wide-band feeds



Phased arrays  
(FoV expansion)





# SKA Pathfinder

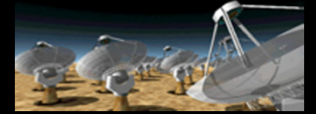


- Science pathfinding
- Novel antenna construction
- Sparse arrays
- Field of view expansion
- Wide-band feeds
- Signal transmission
- Processing and data management

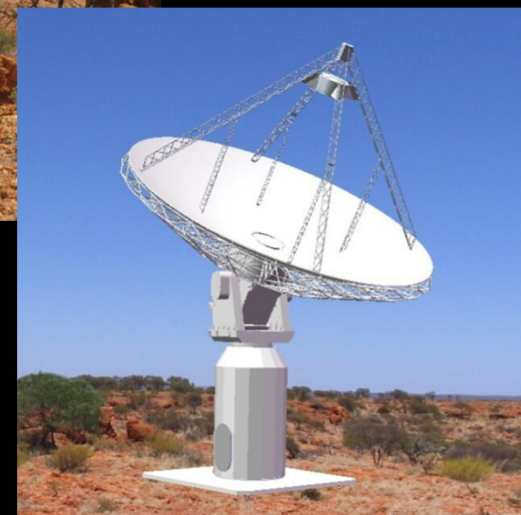
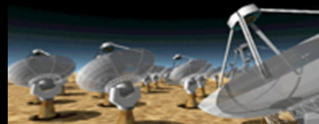


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# SKA Precursors







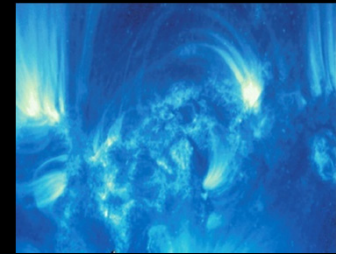
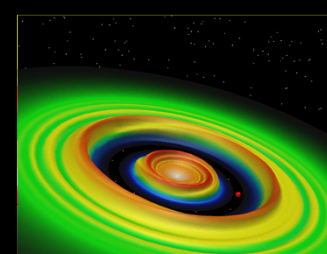
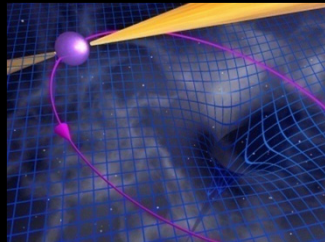
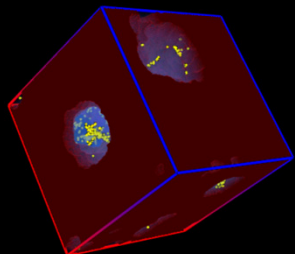
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Administration  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology



# Square Kilometer Array

## The Global Radio Wavelength Observatory

- Originally: “Hydrogen telescope”
  - Detect H I emission from Milky Way-like galaxy at  $z \sim 1$
- SKA science much broader
  - $\Rightarrow$  Multi-wavelength, multi-messenger
- On-going technical development
- International involvement

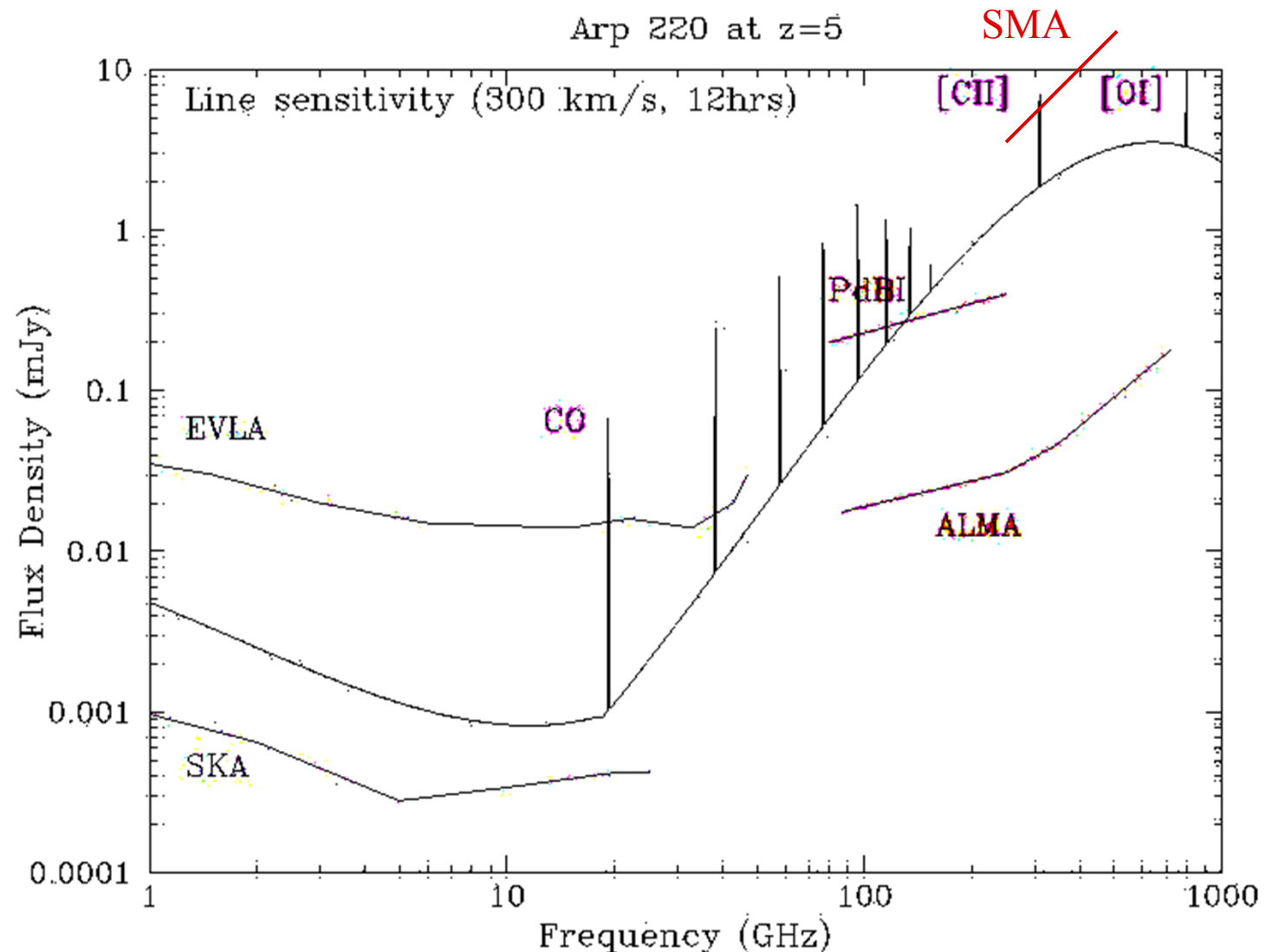






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# Pushing to normal galaxies: spectral lines



- FS lines will be workhorse lines in the study of the first galaxies with ALMA.
- Study of molecular gas in first galaxies will be done primarily with cm telescopes

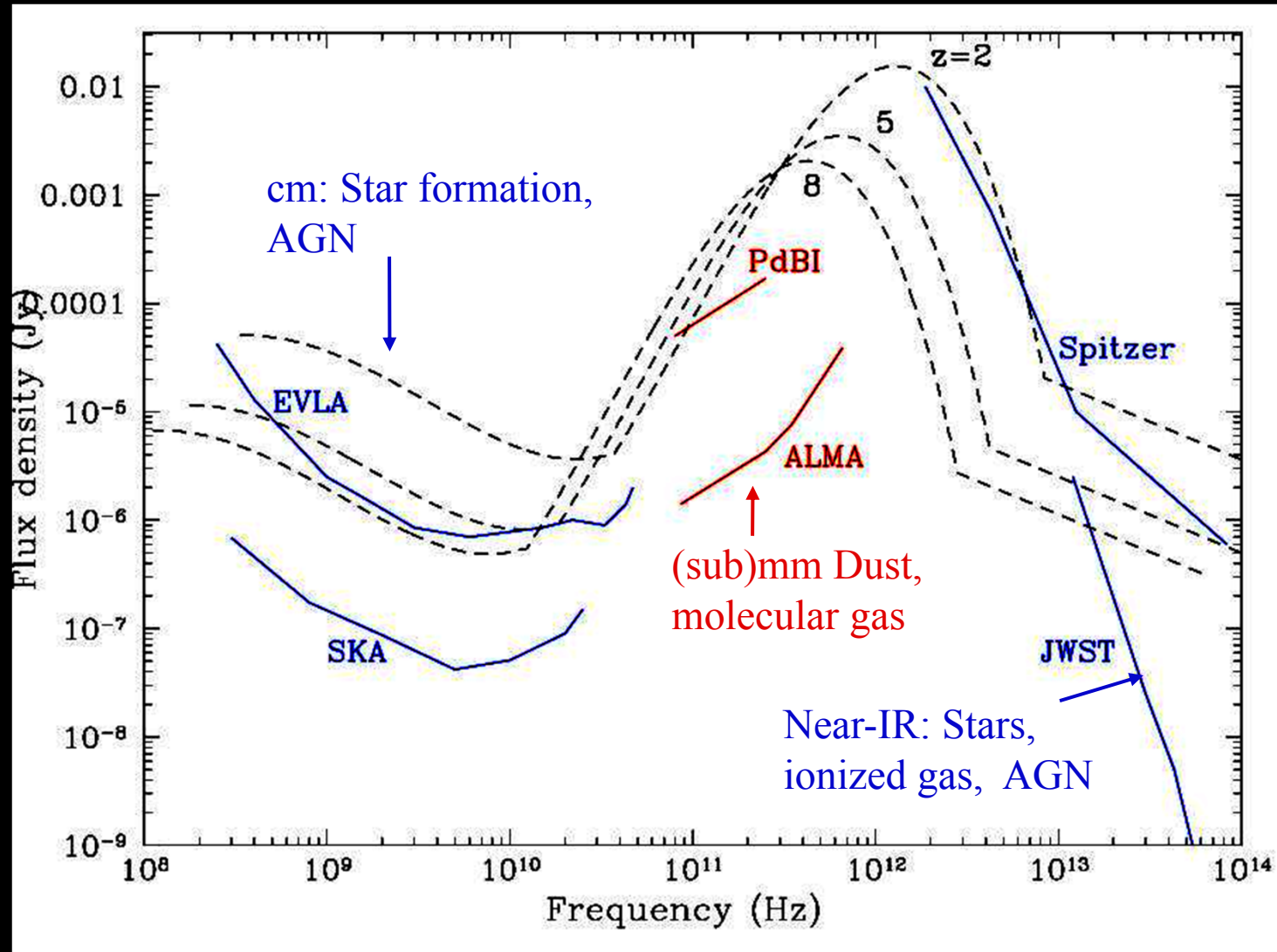


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# Pushing to normal galaxies: continuum

## A Panchromatic view of galaxy formation



Origins

First Light

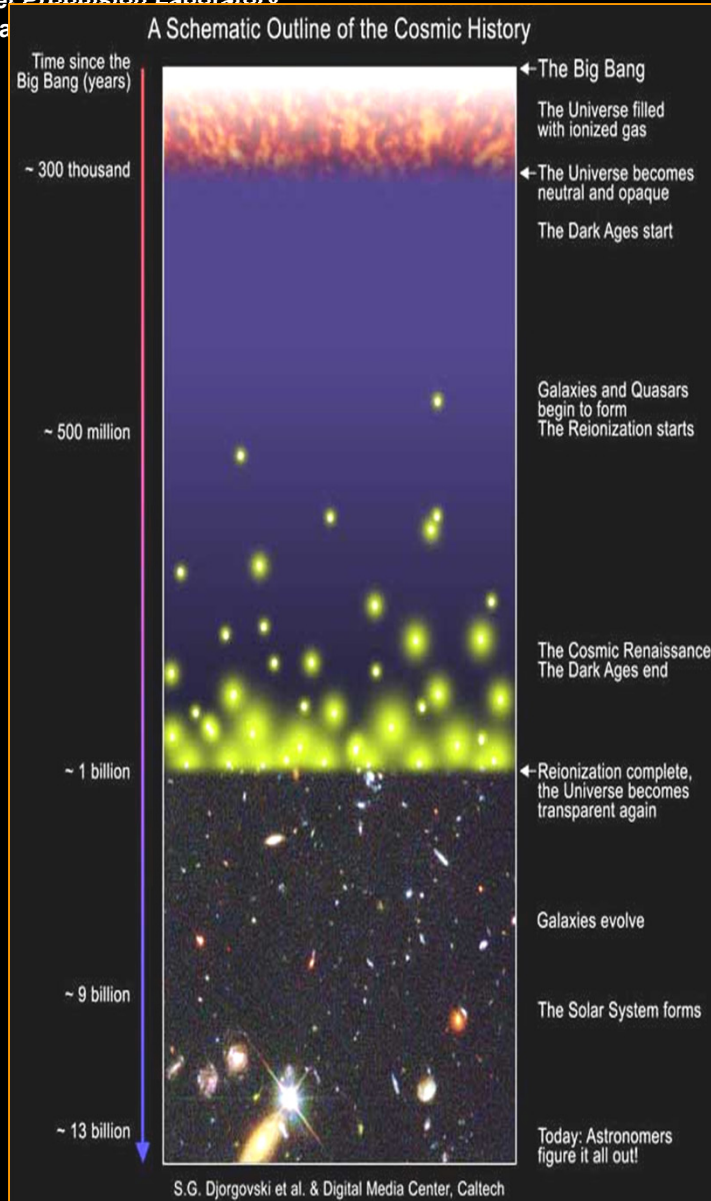
Galaxy Evolution

Astrobiology

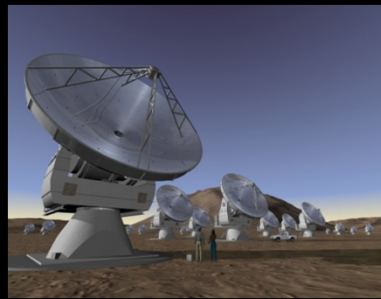
Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Ca

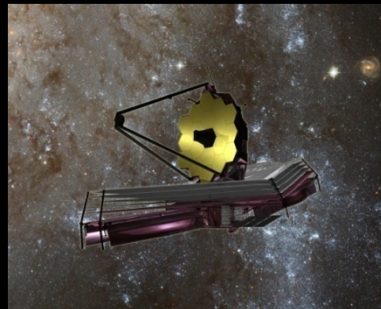
# Epoch of Reionization



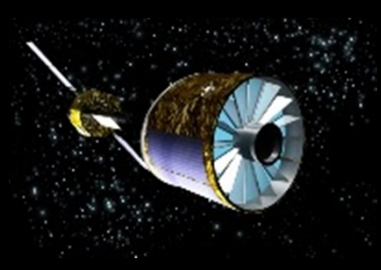
SKA: IGM and First Galaxies



ALMA: First Galaxies



JWST: First Stars and Galaxies



X-rays: First Black Holes



Origins

First Light

Galaxy Evolution

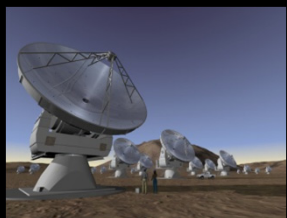
Astrobiology

Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology

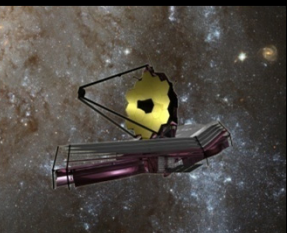
# Galaxy Assembly & Evolution



SKA: atomic gas, star formation, feedback



ALMA: molecular gas, star formation



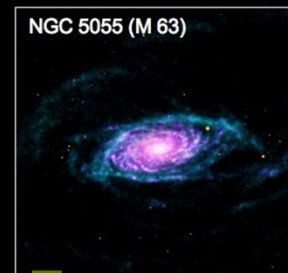
JWST: dust, star formation



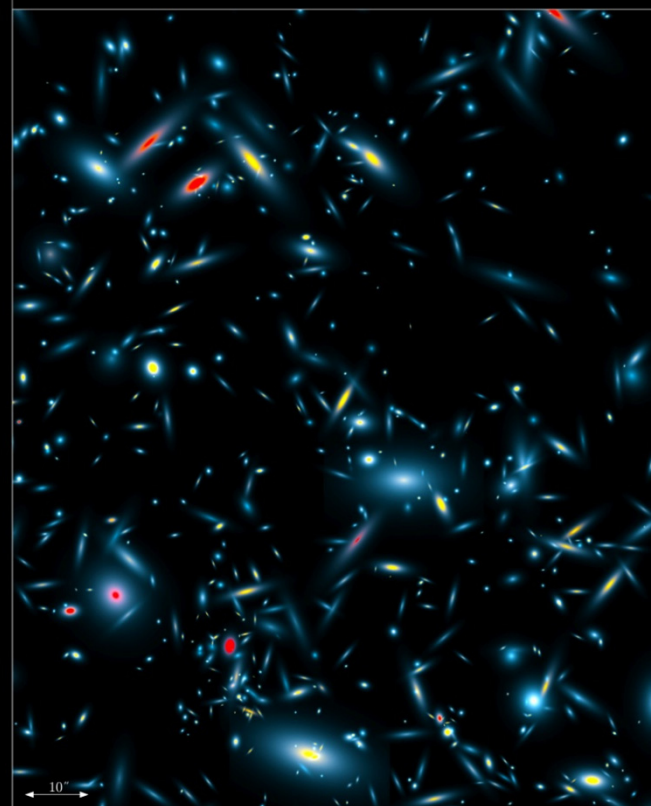
Optical/UV: stars, star formation



X- and  $\gamma$ -rays: feedback



SKA Design Studies – Hydrogen Simulation at  $z=1$



■ Atomic Hydrogen (hyperfine emission-line at 1.4 GHz rest-frame)  
■ Carbon Monoxide (1-0 emission-line at 115 GHz rest-frame)  
■ Carbon Monoxide (6-5 emission-line at 692 GHz rest-frame)

University of Oxford  
April 2009  
D. Obreschkow

Origins

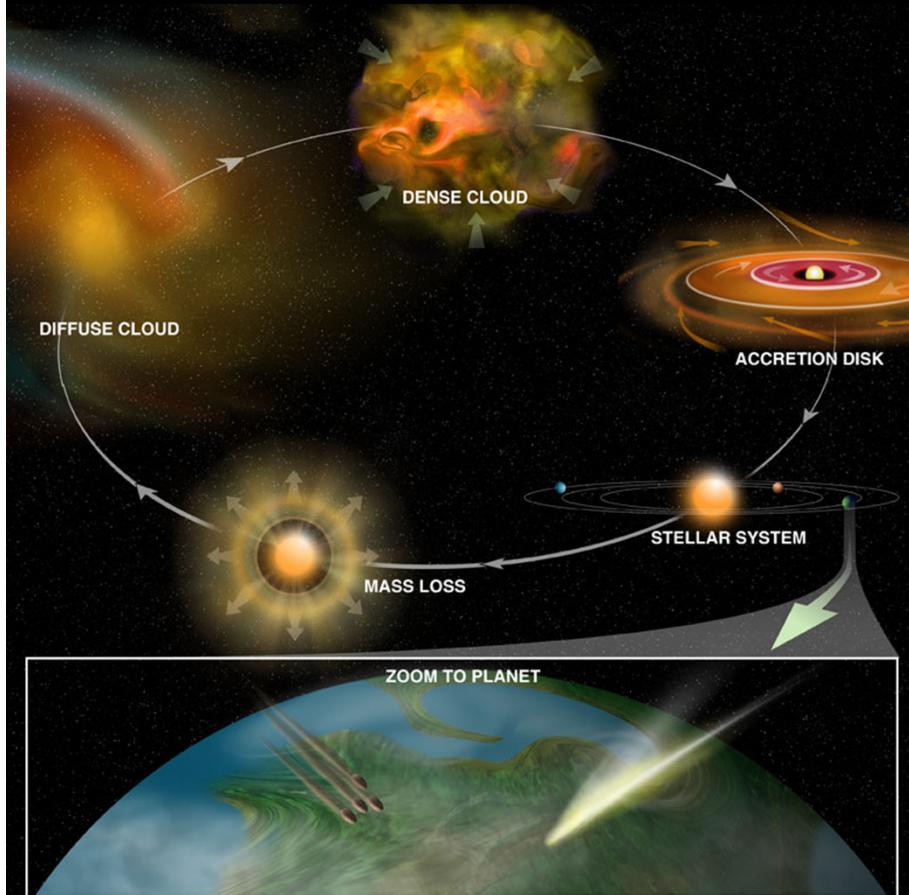
First Light

Galaxy Evolution

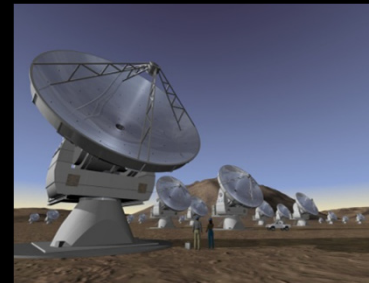
Astrobiology

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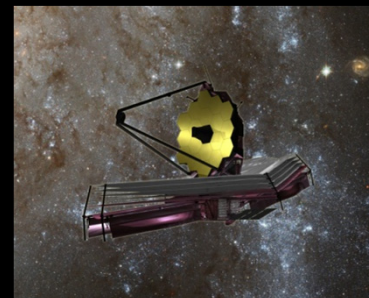
# Astrobiology



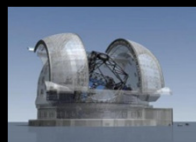
SKA:  
protoplanetary  
disks, molecules,  
planets, SETI



ALMA: protoplanetary  
disks, molecules



JWST: protoplanetary  
disks



Optical: protoplanetary  
disks, planets



Fundamental  
Physics

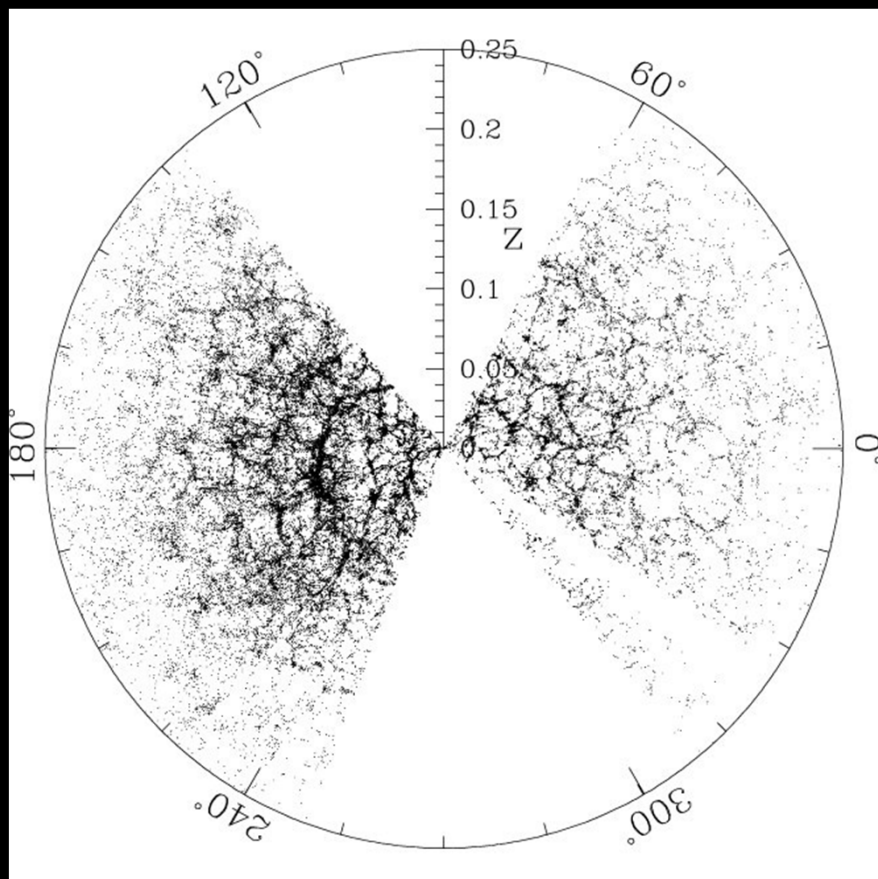
Dark Energy

GR & BHs

Strong Force

ology

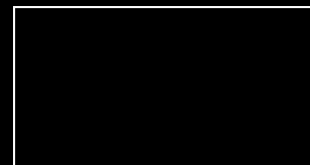
# SKA: Stage IV BAOs



SKA: H I BAOs  
("Billion-Galaxy  
Survey")



LST: BAOs,  
supernovae, weak  
lensing, ...



JDEM: supernovae,

...